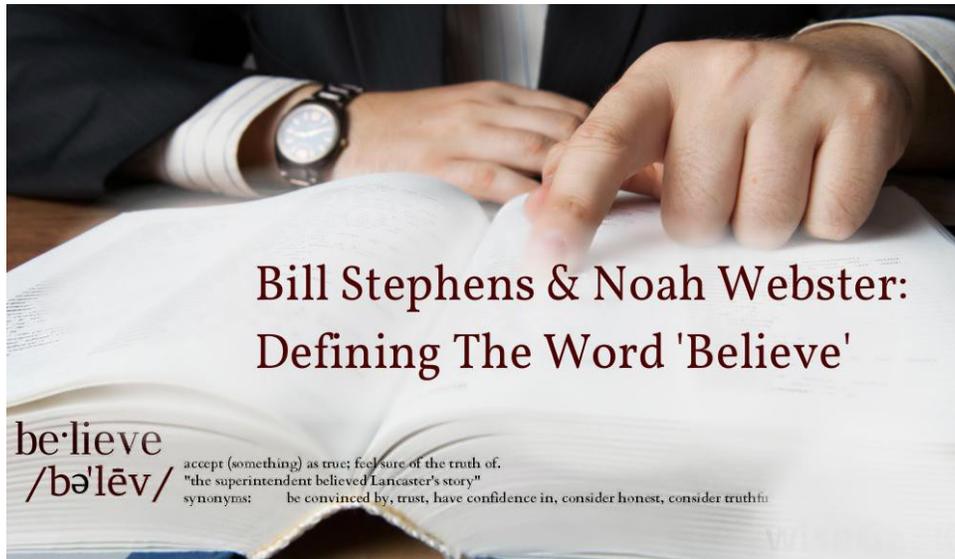


Believe: Helping Noah Webster Define A Huge Emotional Word

by Bill Stephens, Metropolitan Sentinel Columnist

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This has always been the season to have hope and to believe. Webster defines to believe is to accept something as true.

I would like to think that this time of year has brought out the kid in all of us; with the hope and belief that anything is possible. Anyone can be Santa Claus to us - our friends, family members, neighbors or even simply a stranger passing us on the street.

As the year comes to a close, we imagine new dreams and wishes for the New Year. As we say goodbye to 2017, we reflect upon the events that have shaped the year and remember those who we have lost.

I believe when the clock strikes midnight - as you embrace that special man or woman placing that last kiss of the old year and first kiss of the new year - as 2017 closes and 2018 begins, hope is born for the next 365 days.

I believe that a better world is possible and will be just around the corner if only the people that we placed in power believe and have the guts to really do what is right for the good of us all.

I believe in faith and charity. Each of us should practice this every day. Have faith in your creator as well as yourself. If we do not believe in ourselves first, we can't ever have faith and trust in anyone else.

While charity begins within – it should be shared. GIVE, Give till it hurts. You will feel better for it. Oh and giving doesn't have to be money. It can be of yourself, your time and talent which is every bit as valuable and can be just as gratifying. Help one person each day. Then hopefully, they in turn will help someone. Soon, everyone will have enough to believe.

I believe in laughter. The ability to laugh is good for the soul. It can lift your spirit – especially if you have had a bad day. Watch a funny movie, listen to a comedian or talk to that funny friend or relative that always has a good joke to tell.

I believe in love. Yes, you are hearing that from someone that has been single and unattached for more than ten years. Belief is where there is always a chance that just around the corner you will come across that special someone that will make the coming year soooo much better.

Watch a sappy movie, love story or just turn to the Hallmark Channel. There is no shortage of happy endings on that network. Sit in front of the fireplace, feel the warmth and watch the flames dance. As you hear the crackling sound, it's almost as if the fire speaks to you.

So, enjoy yourself as the clock strikes midnight and the ball drops in New York City, the confetti flies and the hundreds of thousands spectators pack into Times Square yelling at the top of their lungs.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Bring on the Hope and just BELIEVE! Do this every day and we will all be better for it.

What do you believe in? I'd like to hear from you. Please e-mail me at the link below.